KEIZER TRAFFIC, BIKEWAYS & PEDESTRIAN SAFETY COMMITTEE MINUTES
Thursday, August 23, 2012 @ 6:00 p.m.
Keizer City Hall

CALL TO ORDER

Keith Blair called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m.

ATTENDANCE

Present:
Keith Blair, Chair
Ed Thompson, Vice Chair
Eamon Bishop
Dennis Dunning
Curt McCormack
Shelly Campbell (6:20)
Jeremy Jensen
David Dempster
Rick Jorgensen

Absent:
Bill Lawyer, Public Works Director
David LeDay, Police Liaison
Rod Conway, Keizer Fire Liaison
Marion County Fire Liaison

Staff/Liaisons Present:
Debbie Lockhart, Deputy City Recorder
Councilor McKane for Jim Taylor

APPROVAL OF MINUTES ~ Curt McCormack moved to approve the July 2012 Minutes. David Dempster seconded. Motion passed as follows: Blair, Thompson, Bishop, Dunning, McCormack and Jensen in favor, with Dempster and Jorgensen abstaining and Campbell absent at time of voting.

APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS ~ Larry Befus voiced concern for the safety of children in the vicinity of Marigold and 14th because of the excessive parking that takes place during events and practices on Whiteaker playing fields. He explained that the School District had put up a chain link fence to prevent cut through pedestrian traffic and that had alleviated the excessive parking, but an area resident had removed the fence so that his dog could use the field for his "business" and the parking had gotten bad again. He noted that the majority of the neighbors are concerned for their guests but he was concerned about the children; speeding is not an issue. He suggested that perhaps sandwich signs be put up during the practices and events. Mr. Thompson suggested that the fence be put back up to which Mr. Befus replied that it had been, but people keep taking it down. He suggested that it be put up with welded joints. It was also suggested that the gates be locked except on school days. Mr. Befus encouraged committee members to wait until after school starts and then come see the problem on a Saturday morning when it is bad.

Committee members agreed that they should each check out the area and be prepared to discuss the issue at the next meeting. Committee members agreed to talk with Public Works Director, Bill Lawyer and Police Liaison Sgt. David LeDay regarding the issue and

ask them to visit the area in question and solicit their input and assistance in remedying the situation. Mr. Befus volunteered to talk to 24J but felt it would be more productive if Mr. Lawyer and Sgt. LeDay accompanied him. Chair Blair stressed the importance encouraging people to use the parking lot instead of parking on the streets.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Report of Public Services Fair: Curt McCormack reported that the main emphasis of the booth was bicycles; they fitted 16 children with safety helmets. Julie at ODOT supplied the committee with extensive materials for the booth. David Dempster explained that the Bikeways Committee would occasionally sell the helmets for $5 because when they give them away the children do not seem to value them as much. He explained that the helmets came from an ODOT grant and the committee has about 150 left. He added that this was the first time the event has been held during the day and turnout is greater in the evening at the Public Works shop. Mr. McCormack suggested that there might be a better turnout if there was more publicity ahead of time. The committee could do tire repairs and safety checks on bikes. Chair Blair suggested that this be an annual event.

Committee Member Input: David Dempster reported that 12 helmets were given to the Police Department to be given away.

Eamon Bishop suggested that as parking gets bad in Keizer perhaps a program similar to one in Eugene could be implemented whereby residents are given a parking sticker with an expiration date and others would be allowed only limited parking. Eugene makes good money with parking tickets through this program. He suggested this might work in the soccer area. Chair Blair suggested this be brought up with Mr. Lawyer at the next meeting.

Curt McCormack reported that he had visited with Ms. Dibble regarding her pedestrian safety concerns and the need to educate cyclists using sidewalks. He is working on an idea of some kind of traffic safety event that could be done locally or in schools to facilitate this.

Keith Blair reported that he had looked into the ACTS Oregon mini-grant program: "Building Safer Communities" which is designed to fund programs. He has the application for the 2012-2013; the committee can apply for $1,000-$5,000 but they must have permission from the City to do so. He noted that Safety Town has been suspended due to budget cuts, but he had spoken with them and they indicated they would be willing to work together to host something at a school or in the Community Center. The grant application is due November 1 with notification coming in December and program completion required by September 2013.

Curt McCormack moved to move forward with this grant. David Dempster seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows: Blair, Thompson, Bishop, Dunning, McCormack, Jensen, Dempster, Jorgensen and Campbell in favor.

Suggestions were made to work with the Boys & Girls Club and the YMCA. Mr. Blair indicated he would check with Bill Lawyer regarding securing City permission to apply for the grant and also contact the Boys & Girls Club, YMCA and Safety Town.

Ed Thompson noted that many people are parking too close to intersections and questioned if the City could paint the curbs yellow to prevent this. He suggested that perhaps college interns could be used to paint the curbs. Members of the committee agreed that this should be brought up at the next meeting so that Mr. Lawyer and Sgt. LeDay could respond.

STAFF REPORT ~ None

POLICE LIAISON REPORT ~ None

COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT ~ Councilor McKane reported that Council updated the Council Rules and Procedures and entered into an agreement with the District Attorney to allow Keizer Police to access their records. The group discussing the third bridge across the Willamette has chosen Alternative 4D which basically extends the Parkway across the river. This will be recommended to local governments. Councilor McKane also pointed out that when Bikeways and Traffic Safety were combined Councilor Taylor had volunteered to serve as the Liaison. Councilor McKane is filling in for him while he goes fishing.

ADJOURNMENT ~ Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Next Scheduled Meeting ~ September 27, 2012, 6 p.m., Civic Center

Minutes Approved: *9-27-12*